

REMARKS

In the Restriction Requirement mailed March 8, 2004, the Examiner divided the claims into 15 Groups.

Applicants elect:

Group I, which consists of claims 1, 3, 4, and 6-21.

This election is without traverse.

The non-traversal of the outstanding Restriction Requirement is an effort by Applicants to expedite the prosecution of this Application. As the Examiner is not doubt aware, this application was lost by the USPTO before being forwarded to the Examiner. This Application was filed on August 7, 2001, and still awaits its first action on the merits.

In this regard, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned to discuss issues that may preclude allowance.

Petition for an Extension of Time

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17, 1.136(a), the Applicants hereby petition for an extension of time of two (2) months to June 8, 2004 for the period in which to file a

response to the outstanding Office Action. The required fee of \$210.00 is authorized via the attached Form PTO-2038.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with this amendment to Deposit Account 50-2752.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard S. Myers, Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.

Richard S. Myers, Jr.
Registration No. 42,022
STITES & HARBISON
Customer No. 32885

Attorneys for Applicant



Serial Number 09/924,082

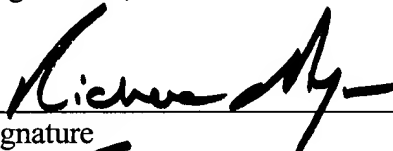
CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING

I hereby certify that this Response, Form PTO-2038 and Return Receipt Postcard are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

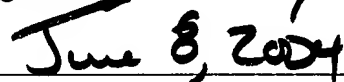
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on June 8, 2004.

Richard S. Myers, Jr.
Reg. No. 42,022



Signature



Date